



## *Report to the Auburn City Council*

Action Item
Agenda Item No. 9
City Manager's Approval

**To:** Mayor and City Council Members  
**From:** Wilfred Wong, Community Development Director  
**Date:** November 9, 2009  
**Subject:** Initiate Ordinance Amendment to Update Animal Regulations

### *The Issue*

Should the City Council initiate an ordinance amendment to update the City's animal regulations?

### *Conclusions and Recommendation*

By Resolution direct staff to initiate an ordinance amendment to update the City's animal regulations.

### *Background*

Due to the recent dog biting incident, discussions have taken place about the City's animal regulations. Animal regulations were first adopted in 1973 and the last major update was in 1997.

Recently, the Community Development Department has been assisting the Police Department with animal issues. During this time staff identified the need to update the City's animal regulations. As time permits, the Code Enforcement Officer and planners have been working on drafting codes sections to update the Zoning Ordinance and Animal Chapter of the municipal code.

If the Council desires, staff can make this ordinance amendment a priority. Staff would not recommend updating the municipal code for only dogs. Many of the animal regulations pertain to not only dogs, but other animals.

During this time the Police Department will continue working on alternatives that balance public safety and dog ownership rights.

### *Alternatives Available to Council; Implications of Alternatives*

- A. Initiate an ordinance amendment. Staff will make this a priority project.
- B. Do not initiate an ordinance amendment. Staff will continue working on updating animal regulations, but will continue as a time permits project.

**Fiscal Impacts**

Approximate cost of \$600 to publish public hearing notices. The Community Development Department's budget for Legal Advertising (45-130-40400) can accommodate this cost.

**Additional Information**

Please see the following Exhibit for more details:

- A. City Council Resolution initiating ordinance amendment.

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 09-\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION INITIATING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO UPDATE THE  
CITY'S ANIMAL REGULATIONS

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THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

That the City Council of the City of Auburn does hereby direct City Staff  
to initiate an ordinance amendment to update the City's animal regulations.

DATED: November 9, 2009

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J.M. Holmes, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk

I, Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk of the City of Auburn, hereby certify  
that the foregoing resolution was duly passed at a regular meeting of the City  
of Auburn held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2009 by the following vote on roll  
call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk

